

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 07842 031900Z

51

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 EB-11

DODE-00 NASA-04 OTPE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

ACDA-19 PRS-01 RSR-01 /114 W
----- 002084

P 031750Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 147

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7842

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN PARTICIPAION IN POST APOLLO PROGRAM

REF: STATE 151578; BRUSSELS 4450

1. THE AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED ITALIAN PARTICIPATION IN POST APOLLO WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MORO ON AUGUST 3. THE AMBASSADOR RECALLED THA WHEN HE HAD PRESENTED A MOON ROCK TO PRESIDENT LEONE ON JULY 25, THE PRESIDENT HAD SPOKEN IN GOLOWING TERMS OF IMPORTANCE TO ITALY OF COOPERATION IN SPACE MATTERS. MORO SAID THAT THERE IS NO HOSTILITY IN THE GOVERNMENT TO POST APOLLO PROGRAM BUT HE SAID THAT TREASURY MINISTER LA MALFA FACED A DEFICIT THAT AMOUNTS TO ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF THE BUDGET FOR 1974 AND INSISTED THAT MATTER BE REVIEWED CAREFULLY BEFORE ANY FINAL ITALIAN COMMITMENT WAS MADE. SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT REMARKED THAT PROJECTED COST WAS FOR A FIVE YEAR PERIOD AND FIRST YEAR'S COST WOULD BE LESS THAN 1/5 OF TOTAL COMMITMENT.

2. WITH RESPECT TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER BERLINGUER ON THIS ISSUE, MORO CHARACTERIZED THEM AS DEMAGOGUERY AND INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS WOULD CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE PROGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 07842 031900Z

3. IN ADDITION DCM AND EMBOFF CALLED ON MINISTER FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BUCALOSSI TO HEAR HIS VIEWS ON OUTLOOK FOR ITALIAN PARTICIPATION IN POST APOLLO PROGRAM. BUCALOSSI BEGAN BY STATING THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME DIFFICULTIES - FIRST, LAW PROVIDING MONEY FOR ITALIAN SHARE IN PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN PASSED BY PARLIAMENT. (MORO SAYS THAT GOI CAN MAKE COMMITMENT ON BASIS OF PRESENT AUTHORITY.) SECOND, HE MENTIONED INTERROGATION IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES BY BERLINGUER WHO ACCUSED US OF HAVING COUNTRIES UNDERTAKE SPACE RESEARCH FOR MILITARY ENDS. THEN BUCALOSSI REMINDED US THAT TREASURY MINISTER HAD BLOCKED ITALY'S INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS UNTIL THEY COULD BE REVIEWED.

4. HOWEVER IN SPITE OF ABOVE, BUCALOSSI SEEMED OPTIMISTIC THAT ITALY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN POST APOLLO PROGRAM. BUT HE WILL NOT BE SURPRISED IF PERCENTAGE OF ITALIAN MONEY IN SPACE LAB AMOUNTS TO 18 OR 19 PERCENT INSTEAD OF 20, AS ORIGINALLY EXPECTED. REASON FOR THIS WOULD BE PRESSURES WHICH GOI IS GETTING FROM FRANCE TO INCREASE ITS PARTICIPATION IN L3S.

5. IN VIEW OF SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN BRUSSELS 4450 WE WONDER WHETHER IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO WAIT UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15 OR 18 BEFORE REQUIRING A FINAL EUROPEAN COMMITMENT. BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH MORO AND SCIENCE MINISTER BUCALOSSI IT LOOKS AS IF ITALIANS ARE LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POST APOLLO PROGRAM. WHILE NEITHER IS IN A POSITION AT THE MOMENT TO MAKE FIRM COMMITMENT WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN HAVE REASONABLE CONFIDENCE THAT ITALIANS WILL JOIN IN. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, SPACE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME07842
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS VOLPE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730859/aaaabrdu.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 151578
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <19-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN PARTICIPAION IN POST APOLLO PROGRAM
TAGS: TSPA, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005